

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 10093 181917Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-03 NASA-01 SAJ-01 EURE-00 SS-15

NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /055 W

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P 181713Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2393

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, US UR

SUBJECT: VISIT OF AMBASSADORIAL PARTY TO KALININGRAD MISSION  
CONTROL CENTER FOR ASTP DOCKING

REF: MOSCOW 10014

1. AMBASSADOR AND MRS. STOESEL, NASA ASSOCIATE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR AND MRS. SHAPLEY, AND SCI COUNSELOR LOEBNER VISITED THE SOVIET MISSION CONTROL CENTER IN KALININGRAD (NEAR MOSCOW) THE EVENING OF JULY 17 TO VIEW THE APOLLO-SOYUZ ACTIVITIES. THE AMBASSADOR'S PARTY ARRIVED AT 6:20 PM MOSCOW TIME, WAS INTRODUCED TO THEIR HOSTS, AND GIVEN A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE CENTER'S OPERATION BEFORE BEING TAKEN TO THE MAIN CONTROL HALL TO WATCH THE APPROACH, DOCKING, AND EARLY POST-DOCKING EVENTS. THE PARTY DEPARTED AFTER HEARING THE PRESIDENT'S CONVERSATION WITH BOTH CREWS SOME FOUR HOURS LATER.

2. IN THE LARGE CONTROL ROOM THE AMBASSADORIAL PARTY WATCHED DISPLAYS OF SPACECRAFT TRAJECTORIES AND POSITIONS AS WELL AS THE LARGE-SCREEN, LIVE TRANSMISSIONS FROM APOLLO, SOYUZ, AND THE JOHNSON SPACE CENTER. DURING THE VISIT, THE GROUP TOURED THE ADJACENT SATELLITE CONTROL ROOM, WHERE THE NINE-MAN  
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NASA TEAM WAS WORKING; SEVERAL ROOMS WHERE SOVIET

CREWS WERE WORKING IN SUPPORT OF THE MAIN CONTROL ROOM; SEVERAL GROUND STATION AND COMMUNICATION SWITCHING ROOMS; PORTIONS OF THE COMPUTER COMPLEX; AND THE INSTALLATION HOUSING THE MANY BACK-PROJECTION KDPSLAYS.

3. IN THE MAIN CONTROL ROOM, THE AMBASSADORIAL PARTY WAS SEATED IN THE FRONT ROW OF THE LEFT BALCONY. HOSTS FROM THE MFA, INTERKOSMOS, AND MOSCOW MCC TOOK SEATS IN A SECOND ROW BEHIND THE AMERICAN PARTY. ALBERT MILITSIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE MOSCOW MCC, WAS THE PARTY'S MAIN GUIDE FOR THE CENTER AND ITS ACTIVITIES. MFA COUNSELOR ANTIPOV AND FIRST SECRETARY CHURILLIN ACTED AS INTERPRETERS FOR MR. AND MRS. SHAPLEY. VICE CHAIRMAN S. VERESHCHETIN AND I.B. PRISEVOK OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT REPRESENTED INTERKOSMOS.

4. IN THE MAIN CENTRAL BALCONY OF THE CONTROL ROOM WERE SEATED A LARGE NUMBER OF HIGH-RANKING SOVIET OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS MANY COSMONAUTS. INCLUDED WERE

D. F. USTINOV, CPSU SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF SPACE AND WEAPONS;

L. V. SMIRNOV, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTER (RESPONSIBLE FOR WEAPONS PRODUCTION AND SPACE);

L. A. KOSTANDOV, MINISTER OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY USSR;

V. F. TOLUBKO, ARMY GENERAL, CINC OF STRATEGIC ROCKET FORCES;

KOTELNIKOV, ACTING PRESIDENT, USSSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES;

B. N. PETROV, CHAIRMAN, INTERKOSMOS.

EACH OF THESE DIGNITAIRES CAME NOT ONLY TO GREET THE AMBASSADOR, BUT ALSO RETURNED TO BID HIM GOODBYE AT HIS DEPARTURE. FURTHERMORE, MANY OF THIS GROUP ASKED FOR AND RECEIVED THE AMBBASSADOR'S AND MR. SHAPLEY'S AUTOGRAPHS.

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 10093 181917Z

5. WITHWORKMANSHIP RIVALING THE KREMLIN'S PALACE OF CONGRESSES, THE NEWLY-CONSTRUCTED MCC AT KALININGRAD IS SPACIOUS AND MODERN. THE INTERIOR FURNISHINGS AND DECOR ARE OF A STYLE THAT MIGHT HAVE COME FROM AN EXEMPLARY RECENT FEDERAL BUILDING. THE ONLY NOTICABLE REMINDERS OF THE BETTER-KNOWN SOVIET "STYLE" WERE THE QUALITY OF SOME FABRICS AND RUGS AND THE OBTRUSIVE PLACEMENT OF SOME ELCTRIC CONDUITS, GIVING

THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT ENTIRELY ABANDONED  
THE "AFTERTHOUGHT" SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

6. THE CENTER'S ELECTRONIC COMPUTER AND DISPLAY  
INSTALLATIONS ARE MUCH LIKE THOSE OF THE USS APPROXI-  
MATELY A DECADE AGO. INTERESTINGLY, THE PROPORTION OF  
FEMALE CONTROL CONSOL OPERATORS, SEEN AT THIS  
CENTER, WAS SIGNIFICANTLY LARGER THAN IN US  
INSTALLATIONS. AS AN EXAMPLE, THE BIOTELEMETRIC  
DATA ANALYSIS CREW WEAS COMPOSED OF FIVE FEMALE MEDICS.

7. THE AMBASSADORIAL PARTY WAS TREATED WITH VERY GREAT  
RESPECT AND A LARGE DOES OF CORDIALITY. DURING THE  
BRIEF SUPPER, TOASTS DWELLED ON THE THEME OF NEED TO  
TRANSLATE ACCOMPLISHED COOPERATION IN SPACE INTO  
FURTHER COOPERATION ON THE GROUND.

8. LIVE TV BROADCASTS THROUGHOUT THE SOVIET UNION  
COVERED THE AMBASSADOR'S PRESENCE AT THE CENTER.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADORS, APOLLO-SOYUZ, SPACE FLIGHT, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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